

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Scholars and Creatives Invited to Contribute to USVI's 175th Emancipation-Themed Caribbean Writer Edition

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Scholars and creatives currently doing work that can fit under the theme “The Ongoing Narrative Of Freedom” for the U.S. Virgin Islands 175th Emancipation Celebration - your voices are needed.

The 175th Emancipation Committee’s Subcommittee on Research and Data Collection issued a call for content for a special edition of The Caribbean Writer, a publication of the University of the Virgin Islands.

The fall edition of the longest-running scholarly press in the Caribbean, which will feature works with a Virgin Islands Emancipation theme, “will extend the impact and importance

of the work of the 175th Emancipation Committee beyond this year of celebration,” according to Carol Burke, committee chair.

The work being solicited includes scholarly papers, humanities essays, short stories poetry, photography and printable artwork which falls under one of four sub-themes, namely:

- Historical Perspectives in Context: Local, Regional, Global Perspectives Before, During or After Enslavement.
- Freedom and Social Change: Leadership: Men/Women; Access to Property: Rights and Ownership; Testimonials: Embracing Freedom on That Day – July 3 – July 5
- Cultural Identity: Community and Spirituality
- Facing the Past, Embracing the Future: Healing Generational Wounds; Migration and Immigration; Politics and Progress; An Unfinished Project

Those interested in contributing work towards the special edition of The Caribbean Writer must first submit a 150-word abstract, typed and double-spaced, by Friday May 12 to vigatekeepers@gmail.com. The abstract must include a description of the work and identify the piece’s category, subtheme, topic, proposed title, scope, and importance to the overarching 175th Emancipation theme.

Specifications for each type of work are available from the Committee.

“We hope that our scholars and artists will take advantage of this opportunity to explore these themes and topics and broaden and deepen the emancipation narrative of the Virgin Islands, which is ongoing and continues to inform our development as people,” said former senator Myron Jackson, who chairs the 175th Emancipation Committee’s Subcommittee on Research and Data Collection.